

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Stefan FUCHS et al.

Title:

**AIRBAG UNIT** 

Appl. No.:

10/644,956

Filing Date:

8/21/2003

Examiner:

Ruth Ilan

Art Unit:

3616

Confirmation

7600

Number:

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

04/05/2007 SZEWDIE1 00000141 10644956 01 FC:1806 180.00 OP

# TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(d), before payment of the issue fee.

## **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

All documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application.

Document D1 is the US Counterpart of Document D4. English language abstracts are attached for Documents D2 and D3. The absence of a full translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609).

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

### **STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

#### FEE

A credit card payment form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) to cover the fee associated with an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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nu<u>mber.</u> Substitute for form 1449/PTO Complete if Known INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Application Number 10/644,956 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 8/21/2003 Filing Date First Named Inventor Stefan FUCHS Date Submitted: Art Unit 3616 (use as many sheets as necessary **Examiner Name** Ruth Ilan Sheet Attorney Docket Number 076326-0262

|                       |              |  | U.S. PATENT DO              | CUMENTS   |  |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Document Number                          | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |              | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                             |   |  |
|                       | D1           | US 3,632,135                             | 1-4-1972                    | CHUTE et al.                                    |  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |   |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> ) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Documents | Pages, Columns,<br>Lines, Where<br>Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          | D2                       | JP 2001-50691 A  | 5-29-2001                      | VOLK-SWAGEN<br>AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT                   |   | Abst.          |
|                          | D3                       | JP 6-206509  | 7-26-1994                      | MAZDA MOTOR CORP.                                   |   | Abst.          |
|                          | D4                       | JP 49-13168  | 3-29-1974                      | EATON YALE & TOWNE INC.                             |   |                |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                |  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>6</sup> |  |
|                                 |                          |  |                |  |

| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
|                       |                    | 1 |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.